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INDEX TO MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES

FIFTH SESSION OF THE SECOND LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY UNDER THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ACT, 1935

27TH TO 29TH OCTOBER 1948, 18TH, 20TH TO 22ND AND 24TH TO 26TH JANUARY AND 4TH, 5TH, 7TH, 8TH, 10TH AND 11TH FEBRUARY 1949

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MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES

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Volume XVII (Nos. 1-16).

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THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Thursday, the 20th January 1949.

The House met in the Assembly Chamber, Fort St. George, at eleven of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. SRI J. SIVA-SHANMUKHAM PILLAI) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Hindustani Training Schools.

* [a] 528 *Q.*—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are running any Hindustani training schools;

(*b*) how many students are being trained in those training schools;

(*c*) how many teachers are working in such training schools;

(*d*) whether the Government are giving any grant to the training of Hindi Pandits; and

(*e*) if so, how much and to whom?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON (on behalf of the Hon. the Minister for Education):—" (*a*) No. There are private schools which coach candidates for the Visharad and Pracharak Diploma Examinations.

" (*b*) The number of students undergoing Pracharak training is 42, the number undergoing Visharad Course is 1,047.

" (*c*) 44.

" (*d*) The Government have undertaken to pay grants to recognized private institutions from 1947–48 onwards.

" (*e*) The grant will be assessed on the basis of one-half of the approved net cost of running the classes during the preceding financial year. The grants for 1947–48 have not yet been disbursed to the managements of the schools. The matter is under consideration."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government are giving any stipend to individuals who are undergoing Visharad training? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" That information is not available here. No, I am told."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR :—" May I ask if these Hindi Pandits are paid on a par with the other Pandits especially Tamil Pandits, etc."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" There is slight variation. But it is not relevant to this question, Sir."

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a Starred question left over from the list of 18th January 1949.

21st January 1949]

"(b) The petitioners were informed that in the opinion of the Government there is no need for a bridge or causeway across the Thambraparni river at Eral, while there is already a bridge 10 miles up the same river at Srivaikuntam."

Sri K. T. KOSALRAM:—"May I know from the Hon. Minister whether he is aware that the Hon. Minister for Public Works Department and the late Mr. Daniel Thomas who was then in charge of Local Administration recommended the possibility of meeting the cost of the bridge by levying toll-tax on vehicles using the bridge?"

The Hon. Sri K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"The policy of levying tolls is under the consideration of the Government. As the question has been persistently raised, the matter will be considered afresh. I can assure the hon. Member that the question of constructing a bridge there will be seriously considered."

Sri K. T. KOSALRAM:—"May I know the total estimated cost of the scheme?"

The Hon. Sri K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"About ten lakhs."

Secretary, Central Road Traffic Board.

* 569 *Q.*—Sri P. VENKATRAMA AYYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether the Government had any special reason to post the present incumbent who is a junior officer and who is not even a permanent Deputy Collector to the post of Secretary, Central Road Traffic Board?

The Hon. Sri B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The only special reason is that he was considered suitable for the job."

Hindi training centres in the Province.

* 570 *Q.*—Sri N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many Hindi Training Centres are there in the Province; and

(*b*) what grant is given to each of them?

The Hon. Sri B. GOPALA REDDI (on behalf of the Hon. the Minister for Education):—"(*a*) So far as information is available, there are 25 Hindustani Vidyalayas under private managements providing instruction for Visharad and Pracharak Diploma examinations.

"(*b*) The Government have so far sanctioned the payment of a grant of Rs. 8,320 in the current year towards the net cost of maintenance of nine institutions in 1947-48. The question of giving a grant for the maintenance of the remaining institutions is under consideration."

[21st January 1948

Sri N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN :—" Sir may I know on what basis the grant is given? "

The Hon. Sri B. GOPALA REDDI :—" I should like to have notice."

Sri A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI :—" Is it a fact that the Hindi Pandits who have already put in a service of a large number of years, are asked to undergo training again? "

The Hon. Sri B. GOPALA REDDI :—" Yes, Sir."

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB Bahadur :—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government are contemplating to teach Hindi in Roman script in these institutions? "

The Hon. Sri B. GOPALA REDDI :—" There is no such proposal under the consideration of the Government."

Sri L. N. GOPALASWAMI :—" May I know the number of institutions that are getting grant-in-aid for this training? "

The Hon. Sri B. GOPALA REDDI :—" I said that nine institutions are getting this grant for 1947–48."

Sri L. N. GOPALASWAMI :—" May I know their names? "

The Hon. Sri B. GOPALA REDDI :—" Let a separate question be put."

Sri R. V. SWAMINATHAN :—" Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state the difference between the ' Hindi ' Training Centre and the ' Hindustani ' Training Centre? "

The Hon. Sri B. GOPALA REDDI :—" The official term is ' Hindustani '. Though the question relates to Hindi, we interpret it as ' Hindustani '."

Sri C. M. KOTHARI :—" Will the Government be pleased to extend the scheme as, compared to the population of five crores in this Province, nine institutions are too small and too few? "

The Hon. Sri B. GOPALA REDDI :—" That is the reason, Sir, why the other institutions may be receiving the grant this year."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB :—" May I know from the Hon. Leader of the House whether the Hon. Minister for Education is still ill, and if so, how is his present health and whether he is progressing satisfactorily? "

Mr. SPEAKER :—" I do not think that it forms part of the question. It has nothing to do with the present question."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB :—" I just want to know how his present health is? "

Mr. SPEAKER :—" If the hon. Member wants to know the state of his health, this is not the time to put such question."

21st January 1949]

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it not a fact that recently the Government of Madras have submitted proposals to the Central Advisory Board suggesting the practicability of the regional script or the Roman script for the teaching of Hindustani in this Province?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I am afraid we are not on the question of script—whether it should be Persian script or Devanagari script. We are on the question of giving grant to Hindustani Training Centres."

[* 571 *Q.*—

MR. SPEAKER:—"This question will be taken up on the 24th instant."]

Issue of licence to permanent cinema theatres.

* 572 *Q.*—SRI S. PARAMANANDA RAYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the South Indian Film Chamber of Commerce has sent in a resolution to the Government requesting the restriction of the issue of licence to a single permanent theatre in case of towns with a population of 30,000 and not to issue licence to even a single touring cinema in the town?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI (on behalf of the Hon. Minister for Education):—"The South Indian Film Chamber of Commerce have sent in a resolution suggesting *inter alia* that no licence for a touring cinema be allowed in a place with a population of 30,000 and below, where there is already one permanent theatre."

SRI S. PARAMANANDA RAYAR:—"Sir, in view of the fact that we are launching Prohibition throughout the Province and want to create relaxation for the persons affected, will the Government consider the advisability of issuing more licences for touring cinemas in the mufassal towns?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Again, it is a difficult question. The hon. Member is aware that the Government of India have asked us not to issue building materials to some of these theatres. That apart, the question of giving licences in places where there is already a permanent theatre is a matter that is to be considered carefully by the Government. The Government are considering the whole question."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Are the Government aware of the great demand for more cinema theatres or touring tents especially in view of the fact that Prohibition has been introduced?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"I think it is the same question."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, the Hon. Minister said that a representation has come from the South Indian Film Chamber of Commerce. I want to know whether the

[4th February 1949

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, the stagnation is for various reasons; one for want of qualification; secondly, inefficiency; and thirdly, may be due to want of posts in Grade I. Previously, 15 per cent of the posts was reserved for promotions and that has been increased to 33-1/3 per cent. So we have provided for a large number of seats in Grade I so that there may not be unnecessary stagnation. A large part of stagnation is due to inefficiency and want of passing tests to be promoted to Grade I."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"May I know, Sir, what steps the Government propose to take to avoid stagnation in future and rectify stagnation at present, particularly with reference to inefficiency?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"That question in clause (d) has already been answered."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"The hon. Member's question is about inefficiency. We cannot promote an inefficient person to Grade I."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether Government propose to retain inefficient, incompetent and unqualified people in service inasmuch as they have been found to be inefficient?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"They have been found inefficient to be promoted to Grade I, but they may be all right for the other Grades."

H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In view of the answer given by the Hon. Minister, can we expect that the existing stagnation will soon disappear?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"It depends upon the candidates themselves, Sir. If they improve and pass the tests, I think they may be provided in the 33-1/3 per cent provided for them in the first grade."

Anti-Hindi propaganda in the Senthi Kumar Nadar College, Virudunagar.

*648 Q[a].—SRI K. RAJARAM NAIDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state what action has been taken on the complaint made to him when he visited Virudunagar on 30th September 1948 that certain lecturers in Senthi Kumar Nadar College are doing anti-Hindi propaganda?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Complaints were received that certain lecturers in the Senthi Kumar Nadar College at Virudhunagar were involving themselves in anti-Hindi propaganda. The matter was referred to the management and the management have informed the Government that the lecturers have been strictly warned against such activities in future."

[a] Postponed from the list of 26th January 1949.

the re-imposition of control, may I know why in the month of December about 240 persons in the Civil Supplies department have been retrenched in spite of the fact that the matter had been represented personally by a Member of the House to the Hon. Minister before ? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" These tables apply to the various months. There has been decontrol in operation in the Province for some months and afterwards there has been re-introduction of procurement and control. These apply to those periods."

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" May I know whether it has come to the notice of the Hon. Minister that most of the jeeps working in the districts are going into disrepair very often and whether he will send round the presidency a mechanical expert to keep the jeeps in good condition? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Whenever the jeeps and the other machinery in the service of the Civil Supplies department get into repair, they are attended to like any other vehicles under the control of the Government."

SRI G. RAJAMANNAR CHETTI :—" Are the Government aware of the fact that even now private lorries are being used for distribution and procurement purposes? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Yes, Sir."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA :—" Cannot the Government reduce expenditure by disposing of the lorries and entrusting the procurement and distribution work to co-operative organizations in the districts? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" If co-operative organizations or any other body of persons are prepared to undertake the work, the Government will consider the question."

SRI B. S. MURTHI :—" In view of the fact that nearly five lakhs of rupees are spent annually on these vehicles and as most of the vehicles are not able to ply for want of proper repairs, will the Government consider the desirability of entrusting the work of procurement and distribution to contractors? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" The responsibility for procurement lies with the Government. If there is any suitable agency for distribution, the Government will certainly consider it. If the hon. Member wants to supply any information to the Government, it will be thankfully received."

Government Colleges where Hindi is taught as optional subject in B.A. class (Group V).

* 666 *Q.*—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state the names of the Government Colleges where Hindi is now taught as an optional language in B.A. (Group V)?

5th February 1949]

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :— " Hindi is not taught as an optional subject in the B.A. course in any of the Government Arts Colleges; but it is taught under Part II in the following Government Colleges in the courses mentioned against them :—

(1) Presidency College, Madras—B.A. and Intermediate Senior.

(2) Government Muslim College, Madras—Junior Intermediate.

(3) Queen Mary's College, Madras—Intermediate and B.A.

(4) Government College, Coimbatore—Intermediate and B.Com.

(5) Government Victoria College, Palghat—Intermediate and B.A.

(6) Government College, Mangalore—Intermediate, B.A. and B.Com.

(7) Government College for Women, Guntur—Intermediate."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI :—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government will consider the desirability of introducing Hindi in all colleges compulsorily ? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR.— " It is a matter for the Universities to consider. The Government cannot do anything in the matter."

SRI B. S. MURTHI :—" As most of the students are willing to study Hindi as an optional subject or otherwise, may I know why the Government have not given facilities for studying Hindi in other colleges in the Presidency? "

* THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :— " I do not think it is correct to say that most of the students are willing to study Hindi as an optional subject in the place of, say Physics or Chemistry or subjects like that. But there may be some students who may like to study Hindi in the language courses. The Government will put the matter to the University."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI :—" Are the Government proposing to make provision for Hindi in the Government Arts College, Rajahmundry? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :— " The hon. Member may put a separate question."

SRI S. NAGAPPA :—" In view of the fact that the national language of the country has not been settled, whether it is to be Hindi or Hindustani, may I suggest that Hindustani may be taught so that it will be easy to adopt the national language? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :— " I do not like to go into that question before the matter is decided by the Constituent Assembly."

[5th February 1949

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB :—" As there is a feeling among many Members of the House that Hindi should be taught compulsorily in the colleges, may I know whether the Hon. Minister will make arrangements for the M.L.A.s to learn Hindi ? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—" I am afraid, it is not within the portfolio of the Minister for Education."

Employment for ex-toddy tappers.

* 667 *Q.*—MR. P. A. THANGASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Firka Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have taken any precautions against the toddy tappers being left destitute in the final batch of the eight districts where Prohibition was introduced on the 2nd October 1948;

(*b*) if so, what steps have been taken by them in that direction with the experience gained in the working of the Prohibition in other areas;

(*c*) the total number of toddy tappers thrown out of employment in these eight districts;

(*d*) whether the Government have made any arrangements to tap sweet juice from the palmyra, tapped for toddy, in these eight districts;

(*e*) if not, what the total loss suffered by the owners of the trees is;

(*f*) why the Government have not taken any precaution to avert this loss;

(*g*) whether it is a fact that representations were made to him that the introduction of co-operative societies will interfere with the cottage industry on which large number of people are depending for their livelihood; and

(*h*) whether it is a fact that the Government have provided that the introduction of Prohibition does not interfere with the consumption of palmyra sweet juice as food?

THE HON. DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—"(*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) Jaggery manufacturing societies, milk supply societies, cottage industries societies and land colonization societies are being organized in the nine districts including Madras to which Prohibition was extended on 2nd October 1948 in order to provide employment to ex-tappers. The ameliorative staff are also trying their best to secure the ex-tappers jobs in works executed by Public Works Department, Highways Department, etc., The Chief Engineers (Highways, Electricity, etc.) have been requested to give preference to ex-tappers

7th February 1949]

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA :—" What is the margin of profit allowed to this particular mill? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" I believe they are allowed to sell at the rate at which the retailer is allowed to sell. The margin is 7-3/5 per cent over ex-mill price."

SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO :—" Have the Government fixed any quantity also, Sir."

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" The production of a mill is allowed to be sold as already stated and the quantity depends upon the capacity of the mill to produce."

M. S. ATAULLA SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Sir, arising out of the answer of the Hon. Minister, that on account of these concessions there won't be blackmarketing, may I know how he prevents blackmarketing? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" The steps that are now taken in the matter of wholesale and retail dealers are equally applicable to these people. Any steps that we take in respect of the supply equally apply to these people and so the same effect is there."

SRI M. KUMARAN :—" Have the Government taken any steps to see that in the matter of distribution of yarn no invidious distinctions are made by the mills between customers? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" This seems to be a hypothetical question. I have had no complaints about invidious distinctions. The complaint has been that there is sale for a lesser price than what they are allowed to sell."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN :—" Who are the dealers to whom these mills supply yarn? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" Notice."

SRI B. S. MURTHI :—" Are there complaints from other mills that such invidious treatment will lead to blackmarketing? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" No."

Stipends given for the trainees for Hindustani teachers' work.

* 672 *Q.*—SRI V. S. SANKARASUBRAMANIA MUDALIYAR (on behalf of Sri A. Vedaratnam Pillai) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether the Government are giving any stipends to those who are undergoing training for Hindustani teachers' work? 11-15 a.m.

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :— " No, Sir."

SRI V. S. SANKARASUBRAHMANIA MUDALIYAR :— " Why, Sir? "

[7th February 1949

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
"Till now, they were not given any grants. The Government have received applications that these institutions must be given some grants and the Government want to give half the net cost as grant. Therefore, nothing further is necessary to be done at present."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"In view of the fact that Hindustani is to be the *lingua franca* of India, may I know what steps the Government are taking to train a sufficient number of teachers in this language?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
"I just now told the House that till now these institutions were not given any grants but applications have been received that they must be subsidized and orders are being issued by the Government that half the net cost will be given as grant which will be applicable for the current year."

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—"May I know whether the grants that are given by the Hon. Minister to those training schools have been distributed or only pending to be distributed?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
"Distribution is not done from here but it is done by the Director of Public Instruction. Part of the grant for which sanction has been accorded has been distributed. I am only speaking subject to correction."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"May I know whether it is the intention of the Government that the amount sanctioned by them is to meet half the charges?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
"Such of those institutions which are governed by these orders will be receiving the grants for this year also. But, there are a number of other institutions and so, they will have to apply for the grants."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Is the Hon. the Minister aware that the grant given is not at all sufficient; in view of the fact that this language is an all-India language, should he not give these institutions greater concession and more stipends to their students?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
"Whenever grant is given, the complaint is that the grant is not sufficient. The Government can do only what is normally possible."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Yesterday, the Hon. the Minister was pleased to tell us about Hindi teachers. But to-day, he is speaking of Hindustani teachers. May I know who are the people who are really trained, whether it is Hindustani teachers or Hindi teachers?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
"Hindustani and Hindi are both one and the same language

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except for the script. If it is in Devanagari script, it is called Hindi. If it is in Urdu script, it is called Hindustani. Of course, in Hindustani, there is a mixture of more Persian and Arabic words. What should be the form of the language, whether it should be evolved from Sanskrit script or Arabic script or Urdu script, the Government of India will go into the matter. No decision has yet been arrived at by the Constituent Assembly on this matter. At present, their idea is to have two scripts. But, the question of having one single script will depend upon the decision of the Constituent Assembly."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"Is it not a fact that students undergoing lower grade, secondary grade and higher grade training are given stipends irrespective of the fact whether they apply to the Government or not? Why not the Government adopt the same procedure when students are forthcoming to undergo training in Hindustani?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"If the hon. Member refers to grants, I must say that no institutions are given grants unless they apply for it. These being new type of institutions must apply to the Government so that they who are given training may be given grants."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Arising out of the answer of the Hon. Minister that there is still some trouble about the script, will the Government consider the desirability of adopting the Roman script as the script of the Hindustani language?"

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"How does that question arise out of this question?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Hon. Mr. Hameed Khan has raised a point of order that this supplementary question does not arise out of the main question."

Alleged death of four persons due to hunger in Perala, Guntur district.

*673 Q.—SRI B. S. MURTHI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether any representation was made alleging that four persons died of hunger in Perala of Guntur district;

(b) if so, whether any enquiry was conducted in the matter; and

(c) if the answer to (b) is in the affirmative, what the names and age of the persons died and the reasons for their death are?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"(a) Yes. A representation to that effect was received by the Collector of Guntur on 15th November 1948 from the Guntur District Handloom Weavers' Congress, Perala.

"(b) Yes. A personal enquiry was made in the matter by the Collector of Guntur.